

REMARKS

This application has again been carefully reviewed in light of the most recent final Office Action and the Rejections under Section 112 and 103 as set forth therein as well as the comments of the Examiner which have been duly considered.

A third Request for Continued Examination is being filed concurrently herewith in order for the Examiner to reconsider her position with respect to the amended parent Claim 1 and also to entertain an interview with counsel.

The rejection based upon indefiniteness under 35 USC §112 has been addressed herein. The difference between the cutting lines (the connected portions) and the slits (the unconnected portions) should now be clear to the Examiner. It is believed that parent claim 1 is now clear and definite.

Claims 1 and 4 through 8 have been rejected as unpatentable and obvious in light of the Japanese Published Application No. 2-353U taken in view of Barbieri 4,004,362.

It is counsel's opinion that the Examiner may have misconstrued the prior art references in combining the same to anticipate the claims in this case. The elements of the claims as now amended are not believed to be obvious in light of these citations.

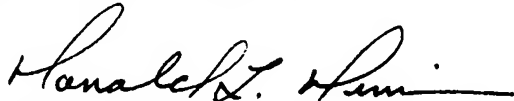
It is apparent that the Japanese Published Application 2-353 teaches connecting portions that are formed between slits 27. However, each of the connecting portions does not have a cutting line that is formed of perforations, as recited in claim 1 herein. Therefore, it is believed that the connecting portions taught by the Japanese reference are structurally distinct from the connecting portions in Claim 1 of this application.

For these reasons, it is respectfully urged that parent Claim 1 and all of the claims dependent therefrom are allowable and reconsideration is solicited.

After receipt of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact counsel for the purpose of scheduling an interview in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

By



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